



Pro improv's set to perform tonight in MPR

JENNY BI  
Staff reporter

After weeks of preparation, the improv club will welcome the highly anticipated youth improv festival. The theatre department and Second Story Theatre, a professional improv company, will co-produce the show.

Cassandra Williams and David Gogic, co-presidents of the improv club, have been leading members in weekly meetings to rehearse for the festival. In addition, the club has been working with professional improvisers from the community to improve their improvisation skills.

"The improv festival is a festival of youth from several different schools who are coming together to have fun on stage," said Lyle Hendriks, grade 12 and improv club member, "It's a crazy and fun thing to do, and the audience will have as good a time as the performers."

"There is no winner; we don't want the festival to be competitive," said Amy Clausen, drama teacher and improv club sponsor teacher, "It's more of a celebration for performers to gain more skills and to have fun."

The show will be free of script and entirely based on improvisation, bringing in the element of surprise.

"I'm really excited, and I think it's pretty safe to say that everyone else is excited as well," said Williams.

"If it's anything like last year, it's going to be a lot of fun," added Gogic.

Performers will have the opportunity to gain experience through workshops provided by Second Story Theatre and interact with students from Pinetree, Charles Best, Riverside, and Meadowridge.

"During the festival you get to meet a lot of new people with the same interests, and there is no awkwardness. We're all there to have a good time and there will never be a dull moment," said Gogic, "I can't really think of a better thing than sharing this experience with friends I've made throughout the year."

"I hope to get better at improvising with this festival," said Hendriks.

The improv festival was held at Gleneagle last year as well, yet it only featured one night of performances.

"Last year was so much fun extended it to two nights this year," said Clausen.

Tonight will feature professional improvisers before student performers from the Tri-cities take the stage tomorrow night. Tickets are \$5 and doors open at 6:45pm.



PHOTO BY AILEEN ZHANG

ABUNDANCE OF TALENT: A grade 12 dances with passion (top left) as another sings a Japanese song with strong emotion (top right). The cast of the talent show proudly shows their talent through performances on stage (bottom).

Talent show sparks student passion to perform

AILEEN ZHANG  
Staff reporter

Over 30 performers filled the MPR stage last Friday at the annual talent show, organized by leadership 10 and 11 students, to raise money for the arts. Students presented a variety of talents, ranging from singing, contemporary pointe dancing, and even ukulele playing.

"I've been learning the ukulele for a while now and I thought [the talent show] would be a fun way to show off my skills" said Jordan Chambers, grade 11 ukulelist.

"I think the night went fantastic. All the performers absolutely killed it and the audience was fantastic," added Chambers.

"I had fun, though I felt nervous," said Andersan Luong, grade 12 singer and guitarist. "But the audience was great. I laughed

and they laughed. It was just a fun night."

"The night was a spectacular array of acts," said Anika Venkatesh, grade 10 singer.

"I think the coolest thing about having a talent show at the school is that it gives students who aren't usually able to perform at school events a chance to put themselves out there and do what they're best at," added Venkatesh.

The event was very successful with more than 100 people attending, exceeding the organizer's expectations.

"As this was the first time that the talent show was done as a TALONS leadership event, rather than a theatre-run event, I think all of us organizers were a little bit nervous about how the show would go," said Kendra Seguin, grade 10 organizer. "Personally, I was worried if we would have a good turnout at the event. In the end,

though, we had a line-up of people attending and ended up raising a great amount of money," added Seguin.

Over \$650 was raised through ticket sales. Half of the proceeds raised will be providing free performing classes at Evergreen Cultural Centre, and the other half will support Gleneagle's musical theatre program.

"The first cause was chosen in order to support kids who may be incredibly passionate about theatre but cannot afford to join theatre groups," said Olivia Heale, grade 10 organizer, "we also supported the school's musical theatre department in order to help fund next year's fantastic musical!"

"While there were parts of the event that could have run smoother, the talent show was an event that the organizers are all proud of. I'm still in awe of all the amazing performers of the night," concluded Seguin.

INSIDE

TRUMP TROUBLE: Further changes in policies from President Trump, such as the travel ban, angers people and riles resentment.



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DRAMA TEACHER OF THE YEAR: Gleneagle's very own drama teacher Amy Clausen wins the award through online nomination.

JAZZ GALA: Annual showcase set to feature jazz band, vocal jazz, and numerous professional musicians.



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ONtheCALENDAR

- FEBRUARY 20 Con-X blood drive
- FEBRUARY 24 District Professional Development Day
- FEBRUARY 25 Jazz Gala Dinner and Silent Auction
- MARCH 2 Slam Jam
- MARCH 7 Interim reports go home
- MARCH 10 Last day of classes before Spring Break
- MARCH 27 School reopens





# Alt-right movement hate speech on rise among youth and media

The alt-right is a term started in 2008 by self-proclaimed white supremacist **Richard Spencer**, to describe conservatives who are “deeply alienated, intellectually, even emotionally and spiritually” from the conservative movement.

This movement did not remain composed of disenfranchised conservatives; it soon attracted young people such as **Milo Yiannopoulos**, whose inflammatory videos and blogs delighted internet ‘trolls’ across the world. Yiannopoulos said the “youthful contingent that has suddenly become interested in politics again” is perhaps the most important element of the alt-right movement.

On social media, many of the alt-right youths argue for free speech and the right to offend, which opponents more truthfully see as the right to hate speech.

This is seen on online forums, where criticism of the movement is met with death threats, anti-Semitic comments, and silence through intimidation.

One of these forums is known as *Breitbart*, an online news station started by **Steven Bannon**, a prominent member of the alt-right. *Breitbart* is often behind the most sensational of the alt-right campaigns, and continues to attempt to “professionalize”

the most untamed and explosive fringes of political conservatism.

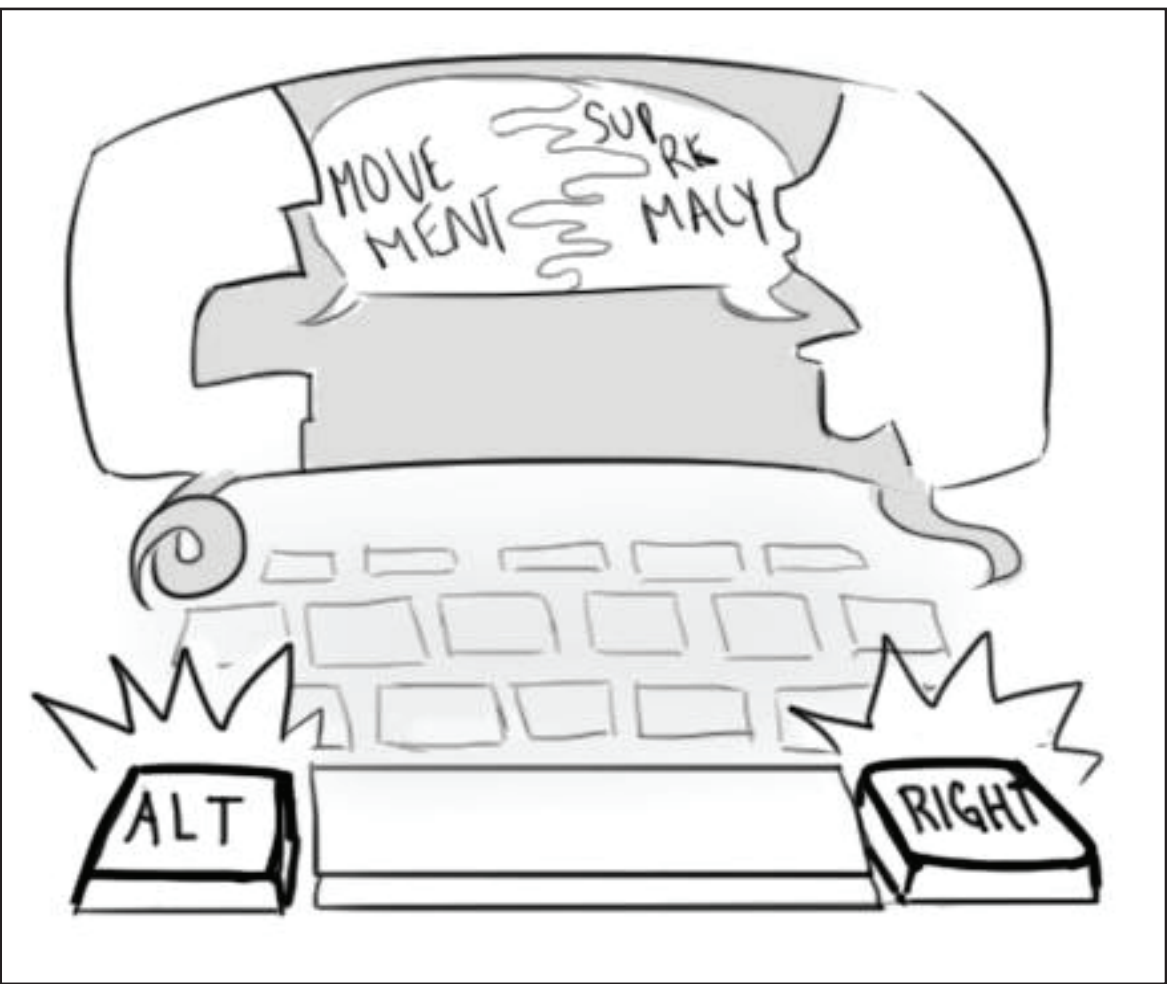
How is it that groups can see one issue so differently? **Adrian Florido**, reporter of NPR news, asked Spencer if the term alt-right “is really a euphemism for white supremacy.” However, Spencer responded to Florido that “this is a movement of consciousness and identity for European people in the 21st century.” The alt-right movement has become a refuge for young white men who feel demonized, conscious that their status as supremely privileged.

With Trump as the newest American president, this faction is empowered, and here to stay.

What comes next? How does one begin to reconcile two entirely antagonistic groups, those being modern liberals and the increasingly large alternative right, into a peaceful and respectful populace?

Philosopher **Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel** was the first to popularize the concept that the evolution of ideas, across human history, is a repeating, three-step cycle. First, the initial movement, the thesis. Second, the response. Thirdly, the synthesis. The synthesis then becomes the new thesis.

If one were to accept this thought experiment, one could see that in North America a thesis has arisen



– of intense social conscientiousness, awareness of privilege, and “political correctness,” or simply respectful speech. If so, the alt-right appears to be as pure antithesis to this as possible.

At Gleneagle teaching staff have political views across the spectrum. However, it is less common to hear the views of the alt-right expressed in educational contexts, because of their nature as discriminatory and extremist. So, learn about the rise of the alt right movement. It is the responsibility of youth, to consider the problem: how to synthesize these movements?

# Travel ban breeds fear, uncertainty for Americans, Canadians alike

**CHRISTINE CHOE**  
*Edge columnist*

On January 27, President **Donald Trump** signed an executive order restricting travel in and out of the United States for citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries.

This order limits travel for 90 days and a 120 day suspension on the US Refugee Program, restricting refugee admission.

The travel ban affects approximately 94,000 Americans and 64,000 visas from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan, Somalia, Syria, and Yemen.

Trump classifies these countries as having a “significant presence of terrorist organizations and a safe haven” for extremists.

Statistically, of all terrorist attacks in the US, 87% were conducted by permanent residents and citizens, not of those overseas.

While some may link terrorism to 9/11, terrorism is an act committed by any person of any heritage that performs an “unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in the pursuit of political aims.”

“The West is not at war with Islam. Certainly radical Islam is

a problem worldwide but Islam is not a problem,” said **Peter Poka**, socials teacher.

“A very large percentage of terrorist activity are done by radical Islamic fundamentalists, that has to be addressed somehow. I think that’s why many people of the States is supportive of this hard line approach because Obama was seen to be very soft on the increasing radicalization of areas in the Middle East,” added Poka.

While Islamic extremist terrorism is real, it is wrong to subject a whole nation for independent extremist acts. It is better to work directly against these extremists, but using the scare tactic created by this executive order infringes upon innocent people’s rights.

Thankfully, many levels of government abroad and in the US agree. On February 9, federal appeal judges unanimously concluded that they will not reinstate the travel ban, though, it is not safe to say that this will be the end.

Trump promises to see this matter to court making it highly probable that an appeal to the Supreme Court will be made.

The Supreme Court is divided equally between Republicans and

Democrats, 4-4. If a tie occurs, the Appeals Court decision will be finalized. How long before Trump files an appeal is uncertain, but until then the Ninth Circuit’s ruling will stay in place.

Experts and spectators alike propose that Trump may be playing into the hands of Islamic radicals. His words can now be used as a propaganda, or influence individuals to turn to extremists after facing this unfair situation.

Amidst all the chaos of the travel ban, Trump’s execution of his promises of the withdrawing of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and issued order to build the Mexican wall was all muddled.

It is frightening that many Americans continue to support Trump’s questionable actions.

Poka sources it back to protectionism, “when times are bad economically, we see in history that people tend to become more isolationists,” Poka explains, “I think that’s reflected in governments like Hungary, a Brexit happening, and you now have Trump. I think we have a common trend of rather inward thinking than outward looking, and I think that is potentially dangerous.”

“While Islamic extremist terrorism is real, it is wrong to subject a whole nation for independent extremist acts. It is better to work directly against these extremists.”

—**Christine Choe**  
Edge columnist

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| Number of Americans killed annually by:                                |        |
|--|--------|
| Islamic jihadist immigrants <sup>1</sup> :                             | 2      |
| Far right-wing terrorists <sup>1</sup> :                               | 5      |
| All Islamic jihadist terrorists (including US citizens) <sup>1</sup> : | 9      |
| Armed toddlers <sup>2</sup> :  | 21     |
| Lightning <sup>3</sup> :   | 31     |
| Lawnmowers <sup>4</sup> :  | 69     |
| Being hit by a bus <sup>4</sup> :                                      | 264    |
| Falling out of bed <sup>4</sup> :                                      | 737    |
| Being shot by another American <sup>5</sup> :                          | 11,737 |

SOURCE: HUFFINGTON POST

**SHOCKING STATISTICS** show that deaths in America caused by Islamic jihadist terrorists is less than one percent of those caused by being shot by fellow Americans.

Potentially dangerous it will be, but the world must wait to see if Trump’s rash executive orders will “make America great again” or will ultimately lead to his own downfall.



TALONSTalk

In light of asking Talons to think about “Fast Fashion” in the commentary below, *The Edge* asked:  
*Would you be willing to spend more money for something that is ethically made?*

“ I don’t really think about those things when I buy clothes but when people mention it I try to avoid those things.”  
— grade 12



“ I don’t care if it is ethically made or not because I don’t know what that means. As long as it is hype.”  
— grade 10



“ I do not care about this what so ever, my Yeezys getting dirty is all that concerns me.”  
— grade 10



“ Yes, I would pay more if it is not made by a child slave.”  
— grade 11



“ Yes, because I find that it is wrong to buy clothes made by the wrong sources.”  
— grade 11



“ To a certain extent yeah, American Apparel I know was ethical but now they are bankrupt because no one bought anything.”  
— grade 11



# Consumers play key role in cutting fast fashions purse strings

RENEE BOLDUT  
Edge columnist

The issue of ethics in the apparel industry has become more relevant in recent years as competition has pushed manufacturers to put consumers and factory workers at risk. Many consumers are unaware about the implications of the clothes they buy and the impacts their choices have on the economy, the environment, and people around the world. Many consumers, such as students, may not have the money to buy contentiously manufactured alternatives. Consumers today have a lot of choice, and with that comes responsibility and power to create change. “Most of my students would rather buy something unethically made because it is cheap; many students get paid minimum wage and just can’t afford anything else,” said Susan Priestly, fashion merchandising teacher. Fast fashion is a term used by retailers about products that move quickly from conception to store shelves, to best capture current fashion trends. Retailers look to create their products at the lowest possible cost and this can put the consumers and factory workers at risk. Common manufacturing practice is a simple process: the materials along with the patterns are sent to the factory which makes a few samples. If the samples are approved,

the retailer commissions the factory to make more. When this process is outsourced, it is very inexpensive. However, retailers have found ways to cut more costs. Cheap materials are used and clothes are made with as little seams as possible. Sometimes, retailers may not even look at a sample before commissioning the factory to make the order. Retailers even bargain over the price to make the apparel, such as countries like India where the minimum wage is already \$0.28 per hour. This forces manufacturers to pay by the garment, outsource work further to people in rural areas, and use poorly built infrastructure for the factory itself. Poorly built factories are a great danger; an example is Rana Plaza on April 23, 2013, where an eight story building collapsed, killing 1,137 workers and injuring many others. It was the biggest garment factory accident on record and it has raised serious ethical issues in the garment industry. One of the survivors, Srabon Ahmed

Jahangir, said, “At the back of my mind I always have this fear: what if the building collapses again?” Though factory conditions may not be safe, factory workers still need consistent

“ Consumers today have a lot of choices; with that comes a lot of responsibility but also power to create change.”  
—Renee Boldut  
Edge columnist



jobs and the apparel industry fulfils that need. These jobs are important to the economies of those countries and to the people. It is a difficult balance between making clothing locally and ethically while still supporting the global economy and trade, and most importantly the people in developing countries who need jobs. “It is important to give jobs to those who need them, while still giving them a living wage; enough money so they can actually survive,” said Priestly. In 2015, the fashion industry used 1 trillion gallons of water, 33 trillion gallons of oil, and 20 billion pounds of chemicals. It is currently the second largest polluter and

consumer of water, with the oil industry in first place. In North America, over 14 million tonnes of textiles are thrown away each year, 99% of which could be recycled or reused, but instead more than 85% ends up in landfills. 40% of colourants and dyes around the world include harmful chemicals that can cause cancer similar to tobacco, asbestos, and DDTs. “It’s frustrating that this continues to be a problem, especially when the fact that other companies can reduce contamination means we’re really just talking about quality control,” said Caroline Cox, an environmental researcher in an interview with the New York Times. The fashion industry affects the people inside the factories themselves where people, often young women, work for over 14 hours each day and continue to live in poverty. Poor working conditions are becoming common as factories strive to compete with the low costs others offer. Consumers today have choices, and though it is more difficult to buy ethically made clothing, it does have an impact on the environment, the economy, and factory workers around the world. Consumers have a responsibility to show that they want change within the apparel industry, and the power to make change by creating more demand for ethically sourced apparel.

## LETTERS to the EDITOR

**Re: Christian Privilege stirs up biased reactions**  
Your article on “Christian Privilege” was very well written although the content was quite controversial. I agree with the fact that Christmas is a big holiday compared to other religious holidays but this doesn’t mean that Christians are more privileged. “It is important for Christians to realize that they do have privilege and use it to help those around them to give visibility to less dominant religions and create change.” This article is quite controversial and could be easily misread.  
-Anusha Kassam

**Re: Gleneagle transforms into Whoville at winter formal**  
I liked the “Gleneagle transforms into Whoville at winter formal” article by Christine Choe. What I really enjoyed about the dance was the new DJ, who took our requests for music, as stated by Jaewon Park in the article. I do disagree with Park when he stated that the winter dance is anticipated every year. The event has never been very popular or at least anticipated throughout the years I have been at Gleneagle. I believe if more people were interested and the dance was advertised in a better manner, it would be more popular. For example, getting more student voices to plan the dance or at least pick a DJ. Other than that, I had a pretty good time at the dance.  
-Nicki Karamloo

**Re: Provincial week schedule different than norm, panic ensues**  
In the article, “Provincial week schedule different than norm, panic ensues,” Jenny Bi says, “This is a situation never encountered before, creating an unfamiliar environment for students and an extremely stressful position for the staff as well.” I agree with Jenny because I feel that it’s unfair to cancel all other provincials except English 12 and Communications 12. This schedule will indeed increase the stress level and also confuse many grade 12 students. I’m worried that this schedule will set some grade 12s towards failure.  
-Farzin Irani



The Edge welcomes letters to the editor and will be printed as space allows. Email your letter from your student account to theEdge@sd43.bc.ca or give it to an English teacher.



SPORTS**inBrief**

Senior boys rugby set sights on new season, new opportunities

The senior boy’s rugby season began practicing earlier this month to get ready for the upcoming season.

The season typically ends in early May, yet if the team makes it to provincials, their season will be extended.

The team is currently coached by **Chris Turpin**, social studies teacher.

Last year, the team finished sixth in the AAA Tier 2 provincial championships and faced schools such as W.J. Mouat, Robert Bateman, and Kitsilano on their way to provincials; they hope to qualify for provincials again.

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ARTONA

Martin Norman grade 12

“We’re aiming to make provincials again this year and win it all,” said **Martin Norman**, grade 12 and captain of last year’s senior boy’s rugby team.

“Our team this year is much stronger and bigger,” said **Oliver Colett**, grade 11.

The team is mainly grade 11 and 12 players, but there are also a few grade 10 students that may be playing as reserves.

The teams that the senior team will be playing are schools such as Abbotsford, Charles Best and Earl Marriot.

The next game the team will be facing will be against the provincially ranked team Chilliwack secondary on March 9.

– Kevin Zuo

Loss to Best end senior boys basketball season

The senior boys’ basketball team finished their season with a heartbreaking playoff defeat to Charles Best secondary in triple overtime on February 7.

The Talons’ loss was during a playoff game held at Port Moody secondary despite astounding performances by **Cole Kiez**, grade 12 forward and **Ashkean Tabrizi**, grade 11 guard.

After regulation and three overtime periods, Kiez finished the night with 38 points and 15 rebounds while Tabrizi finished the night with 28 points and 6 steals respectively.

Photo removed as per SD43 Policy

ARTONA

Ashkean Tabrizi grade 11

The Talons and Blue Devils traded baskets down the stretch with significant contributions from **Denis Dume**, grade 12 forward, **Jackson Miller**, grade 12 forward, and **Jason Ayin**, grade 12 guard.

Although the Talons went 0-6 in their league play, they had fun together every minute they played on the court.

**Hung Wang**, grade 11 guard said “we had a lot of fun playing together but I’m not going to miss getting roasted by my teammates.”

The Talons felt like they improved a lot throughout the season, Kiez said “even though we did not perform well in the wins column, by the end of the season we progressed as players and as a team.”

As the basketball is season coming to a close, look forward to the Talons bouncing back in next year’s season.

– Martin Kim

Senior girls’ basketball player nets U of T spot



ALIROD AMERI PHOTO

**A FORCE ON THE COURT:** A grade 12, powerfully smashes the ball down to the floor as she shows Charles Best exactly why she was titled MVP. Knowles has signed her letter of intent to play varsity basketball at the University of Toronto in September.

**ALIROD AMERI**  
Staff reporter

One of Gleneagle’s finest athletes will be going to the University of Toronto next year to play for their basketball team.

**Sara Knowles**, now grade 12, started playing at Gleneagle while still in grade 8 at Como Lake middle school.

Knowles joined her first basketball team while in kindergarten, at the age of 6, playing for the Steve Nash Youth Basketball program.

By grade 6, Knowles was playing on the metro team, competing in local tournaments. Just a year before joining the Talons, she also played on the provincial team.

“I would go to my middle school in the day,

and then hurry over to practices after school [at Gleneagle] with [Patty] **Anderson**,” said Knowles.

Knowles has always been passionate about basketball, saying “it’s really awesome to find this thing you really love to do.”

“I love the feeling when I’m on the court, I love the heat of the moment, you just get so into the game,” she added.

Knowles views her parents and her coaches as some of the most influential people in her basketball career.

“They really take the time and sacrifice time to help me improve my game,” said Knowles in reference to **Anderson** and **Tony Scott**, both coaches.

“She has evolved into a tremendous force on the floor, and a wonderful young woman off the floor,” said **Anderson**, in reference to Knowles.

During this past summer, Knowles communicated with several prospective schools, both in Canada and the US.

University of Toronto saw her playing in a Montreal tournament, and the university had her come for a recruit trip in September.

“I signed with them, because I knew that is was just the right school,” said Knowles.

For Knowles, her teammates and community have been instrumental in supporting her growth and development.

“When you’re playing so much together, and you sacrifice so much time together, that I always know I can count on them,” added Knowles.

“I’m gonna miss my teammates a lot, and miss [Anderson] and [Scott] a lot,” said Knowles.

“It’s going to be different to learning how to create the same bonds I have with Gleneagle teachers and teammates.”

“What we have here is something very special,” said Knowles. However, she believes Toronto “just felt like the right fit.”

“My future teammates were very supportive and the coaches were wonderful.”

“I will miss her so much, and will be enjoying watching her with the Toronto Blues next year as she begins her next chapter,” concluded **Anderson**.

NametheMascot



Your help is needed in giving the newly acquired mascot a name that is fitting for the spirit of Gleneagle

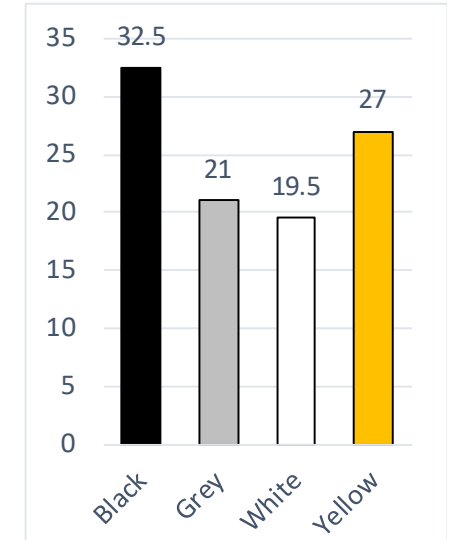
Fill out the form below and drop it off in the main office, or visit @GleneagleSD43 and retweet with #NameGleneaglesMascot to win the honour of naming our mascot and even prizes from principal **Ken Cober**.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Mascot Name: \_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE REPORT

House points are still being properly tabulated from the project angel and food bank drives from December following some confusion about class versus house divisions, yet with the recent basketball event there has been a shift in the house points.







TALONS TAKE ON JAPAN: Two grade 12s, three grade 11s, three grade 10s, and Doug Mancell explore Japan’s sights and visits sister school while managing to star on two local Japanese newspapers.

# Lucky eight take on Kakehashi project in Japan

SYDNEY KO  
Staff reporter

Two weeks ago, eight Gleneagle students along with **Doug Mancell**, Japanese teacher, returned from a trip to Japan, where they were able to fully experience Japanese culture.

Gleneagle students and staff left for their trip on January 26.

They first visited the city of Tokyo.

“We stayed in Tokyo for the first couple days just to get situated and go through our introductions with the people we would be working with,” said **Alicia Ellis**, grade 10.

The group then flew to an island called Kyushu.

“Tokyo and Kyushu are very different cities although they are only an hour and a half plane ride away from one another,” said **Olivia Kwon**, grade 10. “Kyushu is full of nature, whereas Tokyo is full of high buildings and people,” added Kwon.

In Kyushu, Gleneagle students attended two Japanese schools, including Yahata

high school, Gleneagle’s sister school, as well as Genkai high school. The Japanese students welcomed Gleneagle students and staff with gifts and an opening ceremony.

“Students in Japan were really enthusiastic about the chance to interact with those of us on the trip,” said **Dante Umpherville-Choy**, grade 11. “I found the students were very open and easy to talk to.”

Gleneagle students also stayed at various host homes, provided by local families.

“My favourite thing about the trip was definitely the homestay. There is no better way to be fully immersed in the culture than by living with a Japanese family,” said Ellis.

“The family I stayed with was extremely kind and were as eager to learn from me as I was from them,” added Ellis.

“I will be visiting them again for sure when I go back,” said Kwon.

All costs for the trip, except the costs for Mancell’s substitute teacher, were covered by the Kakehashi project, a large-scale youth exchange program.

“[The purpose of the trip was] to enhance

relationships between Japan and Canada,” said Mancell. “It was designed by the Japanese government and they send students all over the world to come to Japan every year and we were selected this year.”

“The Kakehashi project is a program designed to build bridges between Japan and other countries of the world,” said Ellis, “They bring students from all over the world to Japan to learn about their culture and way of life, in turn, when the participants return, they will teach the people around them about what they learned.”

The students on the trip were Ellis, Kwon, **Jay Kim**, all grade 10, Umpherville-Choy, **Calista Lynn**, **Emily Nadon**, all grade 11, and **Kieran McClenahan**, **Chris Culhane**, both grade 12, as well as Mancell, who supervised the trip.

Gleneagle students were also accompanied by students and teachers from Centennial secondary school.

Students from Japan will be visting Coquitlam and Gleneagle over the spring break as a part of this exchange.

## Talontines makes Gleneagle’s hearts grow fonder

JAMIE FAJBER  
Staff reporter

Volunteers from student council went from classroom to classroom, delivering roses, chocolates, and handmade cards on February 14.

“Talontines have been a fun and spirited Valentine’s day tradition since I’ve been at this school,” said **Connor Attridge**, grade 11. Talontines sales had students purchase a chocolate for \$3, or a rose for \$4. Students could purchase the gifts for a romantic partner, friend, or themselves.

Student council sold over 100 roses, and over 150 chocolates to the student body, making this the most successful Talontines event in the six years it has been running at Gleneagle.

This year, the executive team had to purchase two orders of roses. “We were pleased to find out that our initial order of roses wasn’t going to be enough,” said **James Situ**, grade 12, design executive. “That is the best kind of problem to have when you are trying to sell something,” Situ adds.

Having to quickly place an extra order of flowers wasn’t the only problem that came up. “Originally, we had planned to have the Talontines delivered in block three,” stated **Ashlee Ahn**, grade 12, president of student council. “However, after finding out that there was a grade 11 assembly planned for that block, we changed our plans accordingly, and had the volunteers go around the school in block 4.”

When the distribution plans were changed, students that had purchased a Talontine had to be tracked down, and asked to write down their recipients’ block 4 class. This task was done with “remarkable efficiency,” Ahn concludes. “Most of all, I am incredibly pleased with all of the volunteers hard work – it’s them that deserve the credit for the huge success this event saw!”

“Sammie Lam [grade 11] did a great job making the handmade cards,” adds Situ. “They looked fantastic, and I know they are a big reason we sold so many Talontines this year.” Situ admits. “I didn’t buy a Talontine this year, but I was saving up my money for a gift for a special someone.”

Love was evidently in the air this Talontine’s Day.

## NEWSinBrief

### TEDxGleneagle promotes dialogue

Nine speakers, eight of whom were local students from Gleneagle secondary, Pinetree secondary, and Simon Fraser University, gave speeches at the TEDx event that occurred at Gleneagle on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

The theme of the event was ‘reconstruction,’ and the stage saw talks ranging from reconstructing the stigma of mental health, to the reconstruction of the coral reefs.

The conference was organized by Gleneagle students **Jamie Fajber**, **Emma Jeurgensen**, **Eric Jang**, **Nima Tehrani**, and **Sam Yi**, all grade 12, as well as **Nazlie Najafi**, grade 11.

“The event was a complete success, and lived up to our very high hopes for it,” says Tehrani. “For all the grade 11’s out there – you definitely should take on the torch and organize this event next year!” adds Jang.

– Jamie Fajber

## SPOTLIGHTonNewSEMESTER

New semester brings new beginnings and new stressors to students and staff.

TIANA ZHAO  
Staff reporter

Every year, February means both a start and an end. It is a fresh start for both students and teachers. Students get to say hello to new courses, new challenges, new teachers, and perhaps new friends. Although teachers might be teaching the same curriculum, they are facing a brand new group of students.

“I am happy with my semester two classes,” said Amanda Quail, grade 11. “I have easier courses this semester compared to last semester and the teachers are pretty nice,” added Quail.

February also means the end. For most students it just means the end of semester one, but for grade 12s, this means that they are going into their last semester at Gleneagle. Soon they step into university

and a new chapter in their lives.

“I am feeling a little sentimental because this will actually be my very last semester in high school,” said Angela Bai, grade 12.

“So, I guess the only thing I can do is to enjoy all my classes and the time with my

I am hoping to receive better marks than I did in semester one, to meet more people, and to learn new materials to enrich my knowledge.”

Lucy Dai  
grade 11

Photo removed as per SD43 Policy

teachers and friends as well as trying my best to get good marks for my classes. I do feel a little bit nervous though,” remarked Bai.

“Realizing that this is the last half of my year at Gleneagle motivated me to interact

more with my friends and others whom I may not have the chance to get to know,” said Evelyn Chen, grade 12. “Despite the unwillingness to leave high school, I also cherish every second I spend with everyone here, lest I regret it later on in university. The second semester for me is not as overwhelming as others, but I still don’t want to lose any opportunity to broaden my knowledge before facing more challenges,” added Chen.

Students all have their own expectations for the second semester.

“I am just hoping to receive better marks than I did in semester one,” said Lucy Dai, grade 11, and “to meet more people, and to learn more materials to enrich my knowledge,” added Dai.

“For the second semester,” said Bai, “I am just going to try my best to participate in school activities as much as possible, and maybe do something that I have never got a chance to do before,” concluded Bai.



# Club seeks to encourage self-love in post Valentine’s week

AILEEN ZHANG  
Staff reporter

Valentine’s Day is often a day people either love or love to hate for the same reason: its focus on romantic love.

With this holiday comes bouquets of flowers, heart-themed candy, and other reminders of romantic love that may be missing from people’s lives.

These expectations have led to feelings of isolation and loneliness for single people everywhere and may even be linked to increased suicide rates around Valentine’s day.

“It can really strike close to home when you’re looking around and you see other peers in relationships and they’re being showered with love and affection you’re unworthy of that and it starts this negative cycle,” said **Tracy Alloway**, a University of North Florida psychology professor.

“February comes and you’re supposed to be in love and you’re supposed to be feeling better because it’s springtime, but some people don’t,” said **Diane Brice**, director of the Suicide Prevention Service of the Central Coast.

“That’s when it gets really difficult for people, because of the expectation to feel better. It’s because there’s so much emphasis put on being partnered and being in love, and a lot of people just aren’t,” added Brice.

Even for those who have found love before, not everything is paradise.

Doctors have found that people who have gone through an increase in stress, such as that of a breakup, can suffer from broken heart syndrome, also known as Takotsubo cardiomyopathy. It can cause shortness of breath and chest pains similar to those of a heart attack.

In this time when so many feel like the



ALIROD AMERI PHOTO

**THE POWER OF LOVE:** A passionate grade 11, signifies how the power of self-love can be instrumental in the development of an individual by gleefully extending a rose into the air.

pressure to be in a relationship is so high and romantic love seems to be the only love out there, it is important to take time to acknowledge other forms of love and show some love to the most important person in everyone’s lives: themselves.

By showing some self-love, one can improve their feelings of self-worth and self-esteem, leading to an overall happier person.

This love can even be considered the most important component of love because it is the foundation upon all other relationships build upon.

Research from McGill University and Columbia University has shown that people who lack self-love are more likely to expect

rejection or suspect that their partner will break up with them.

To combat this and to start showing more care to oneself, **Heidi Riggio**, psychology professor at UCLA, said “you need to stop and talk back to yourself in a positive way. Tell yourself that the negative talk is not realistic, but just a distortion.”

To promote this, clubs at Gleneagle have been changing their focus from romantic love to self-love.

One club that has been doing this is Free the Mind, a club focused on mental wellness. For February, Free the Mind has been promoting the idea of self-love by creating pamphlets for the counselling office sharing how people can

love themselves. In addition, they will be handing out candy next week with messages of self-love attached.

“Free the Mind chose self-love for this month’s theme because with Valentine’s Day, which is a holiday that celebrates love for others, we thought that it was important to celebrate love for yourself as well,” said **Sydney Ko**, grade 10 and Free the Mind co-leader.

“Self love is really important because it is the basis for all other relationships. Without loving yourself, it is difficult to love others,” said **Renée Boldut**, grade 10 and Free the Mind co-leader. “Especially at this time, it is important to remember the value of self-love,” concluded Boldut.

# Gleneagle student gains experience from scholarship loss

ANIKA LEE  
Staff reporter

This month, **Jamie Fajber**, grade 12, was among 83 Canadian high school and CEGEP students sent to Toronto as Loran Scholar Finalists.

The scholarship program, founded in 1988, focuses on granting awards based not just on high academic achievement, but also on leadership potential and community service.

The Loran award, is eventually given to 33 students, is valued at up to \$100,000 awarded over the course of four years, including a \$10,000 annual stipend, tuition waivers from any one of Loran’s 25 partner universities, mentorship opportunities, funding for summer internships, annual retreats, and a weeklong orientation expedition in Algonquin Park.

As numerous students apply for this prestigious scholarship, 350 volunteers assess 4,438 applications and interview 398 students in order to identify the 83 finalists, one of which was Fajber. This selection process is designed to seek out evidence of character – integrity, inner-directedness, and courage– in young leaders who are committed to serving others.

Although Fajber did not win the scholarship, he was among the shortlisted finalists who received a one-time \$3000 entrance award.

“I am grateful to live in a country where a scholarship like this exists because the Loran scholarship’s goal is to provide exceptional monetary compensation based on stellar qualities like character, something I value extremely. This scholarship pushes students to not only be a diligent



4,438 APPLICANTS  
in 2016

400 STUDENTS  
interviewed in 21 cities to select

33  
Loran Scholars

Fondation Boursiers  
**LORAN**  
Scholars Foundation



**CLOSE BUT NOT CLOSE ENOUGH:** This grade 12, was one of the 4,438 applicants who applied for the Loran scholarship; Fajber traveled to Toronto, where the selection process took place to narrow down the field to 83 finalists. However, Fajber missed the mark and lost his bid to become one of those finalists, but he was shortlisted to receive a \$3000 entrance award.

academic, but also a community leader and shaper,” stated Fajber.

Fajber’s contributions to Gleneagle and his community have been recognized by not only the Loran Foundation, but also by many of his peers and teachers, leading him to have won a school service award for the past three years.

“In my opinion, [Fajber] is quite honestly one of the best candidates. He exudes confidence, leadership, and charisma. He is one of the few people that is both intelligent and well liked, a rare characteristic in today’s day and age,” stated **Rachel Wang**, grade 12.

Fajber may not have been selected as a

Loran scholar, many of his grade 12 peers view him as an extraordinary candidate.

“Everyone in our graduation class cannot help but know who [Fajber] is. He is always running one event or another and is always supportive of other people. It does not matter if he won the Loran scholarship or not, Gleneagle is proud of him,” said **Erika Lee**, grade 12.

Fajber’s leadership abilities have left a positive impression on students and fellow Loran finalists alike.

“Jamie is an energetic and social student that makes an active effort to make everyone feel comfortable and included. When we needed a male vocal for our

impromptu talent show performance, we recruited [Fajber] the night before and he was immediately onboard and showed an easygoing and adaptable nature,” stated **Anna Yang**, grade 12, Charles Best Loran Finalist.

While this year’s round of applications for the Loran Scholarship has concluded, the process is annual, opening again in fall next year.

“I would encourage people to apply for the Loran, but not to shape their lives and service around a certain award or university, rather developing their life mission centered on community work and bettering the lives of others,” concluded Fajber.



# Successful murder mystery fundraiser wows sold-out crowd

**BRAEDEN MANDRUSIAK**  
Staff reporter

Musical theatre students and various staff members showcased their talent to a sold-out crowd in the MPR on February 3, for the annual murder mystery fundraiser, a prelude to the upcoming musical theatre production of *Guys and Dolls*.

“It was a very successful year,” said **Amy Clausen**, drama teacher, who acted as Frankie Four Eyes. “Part of that is due to the silent auction, which we held, and that alone raised almost \$2,000.”

This the the fifth annual murder mystery event, where staff member work with a script, yet improvise many interactions with the audience. During the performance, one cast member is killed, and the audience needs to solve who is the actual murderer and why they were killed.

“This event prepared us for our actual musical by getting the cast into our characters and performing our numbers,” said **Hannah Denholm**, grade 12, who acted as the hot box girl Mimi.

“Personally, I feel that the murder mystery is a good chance for me to perform in front of an audience, allowing me to focus on my character and to practise regulating my nerves,” said **Waleed Hakeem**, grade 12, who acted as the crapshooter Nicely-Nicely Johnson.

“This is my first, and last, Gleneagle Murder Mystery, and I had a lot of fun,” said **Lily Joy**, grade 12, who acted as a crapshooter. “I think one thing I got out of all the performances was to have fun and keep smiling and acting, even if things don’t go as planned,” affirmed Joy.

“I am extremely happy with how the murder mystery turned out,” said Hakeem.

“I loved getting the chance to see the



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**GAMBLERS, SINNERS AND DIRTY MUSICIANS:** Staff members performed on February 3, in a dinner theatre murder mystery to help raise funds for the musical theatre program. The theme for the event was based on this year’s production, of *‘Guys and Dolls’*.

school staff in a different light,” said **Olivia Heale**, grade 10, who acted as a crapshooter. “We all had loads of fun performing that night.”

“The murder mystery has been a tradition that I’ve been lucky enough to be apart of since grade 9,” said Hakeem. “On the other hand, I also thought that it was so nice

to see the teachers having such a good time with the audience, passionately performing,” acknowledged Hakeem

“As teachers, we could always be better at learning our lines,” said **David Salisbury**, math teacher. “I had to read the script on-stage,” admitted Salisbury.

“It is such a fun tradition,” said Clausen.

“It was started before I came to this school, but I am so glad that I get to be apart of it, and we will definitely continue it into the future,” declared Clausen.

The musical theatre production of *Guys and Dolls* will be available for viewing in just a few months on the nights of May 3-5 and 10-12.

## Clausen wins prestigious award as ‘drama teacher of the year’



RENEE BOLDUT PHOTO

**HAIL TO THE TEACHER:** Musical theatre students gather around **Amy Clausen**, who was given the ‘drama teacher of the year’ award in recognition of her contributions.

**RENEE BOLDUT**  
Staff reporter

**Amy Clausen** was awarded with the Vancouver Academy of the Dramatic Arts’ drama teacher of the year award.

Although voting closed on February 1, Clausen had so many votes by January 31 that the Vancouver Academy of the Dramatic Arts called to let her know she had won the award, after Gleneagle students voted for her online.

“I didn’t know that I was nominated or that they had voted for me, so it came as a surprise,” said Clausen. It is still unknown who had first nominated Clausen for the

award, but it is clear that many Gleneagle students voted for Clausen.

Clausen has been a teacher since 2015, and has taught musical theatre, drama, and directing and scriptwriting.

“To have the students recognize and acknowledge her...to have them embrace her in this way is really amazing in such a short amount of time,” said **Scott Findley**, theatre production teacher.

Though Clausen has had success in teaching, she did not always want to be a teacher. From a young age Clausen was involved in the arts.

“I have been acting since I was a young child, I couldn’t get enough of it...I had a lot

of involvement in theatre in high school,” said Clausen.

However, although she had a strong passion for the performing arts, Clausen did not pursue it in her post-secondary education; she wanted to study math or language. “I went to college and I really missed theatre. I felt like I wasn’t being true to myself,” said Clausen.

Then, she auditioned for the acting program at Dalhousie University in Halifax where she “had great training and a great education.” This launched her into her career in the performing arts.

Clausen also began to direct from a young age. The first professional director role she had was at the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, directing *Henry IV* part 1 and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

Clausen has a very impressive resume of plays directed, but she has also had a lot of interesting jobs. She spent three years at the San Francisco Shakespeare festival while she also worked with youth programs in non-traditional locations doing on-site specific outdoor theatre, working with “unpredictable aspects of productions, learning to do a lot on a very small budget, and harnessing students’ passion for theatre and Shakespeare,” said Clausen.

She has worked for the Vancouver youth theatre where she was the director of their teen advanced touring productions,

She also worked for St. George’s, a private school in Vancouver, in the intensive summer program.

Clausen has facilitated theatre learning experiences with the Vancouver international children’s festival and with other local theatre and cultural organizations.

Clausen worked with youth in extra-curricular programs for a long time before deciding to become a teacher.

“I’ve always loved teaching and directing ...but I didn’t think there would be a fit for me in the school environment,” said Clausen.

She decided to become a teacher after her husband **Jon Hamlin**, also a teacher at Pinetree, encouraged her to get her teaching degree.

“I didn’t think that there would be something like this in the school district, imagine how excited I was when this opportunity came along. When I got here, everything clicked,” said Clausen.

“She’s someone who from the moment she came into this school started inspiring everyone,” said **Claire Lundin**, grade 12. “She’s the type of teacher who is very motivating and encouraging. She gets people excited to be a part of theatre.”

Clausen has also made an impact on students new to her program. “Just from spending about three hours a week with her on Tuesdays and Thursdays I can see how much care and devotion she puts into really developing the students for the best production possible,” said **Hira Lalani**, grade 10. “She wants to make everyone better singers, actors, and performers in all.”

Clausen, who is also proud of her students and their work, has become an important part of the school community in a short time. “I guess [this award] means I’m doing the right thing, its encouraging; I am early in my career as a teacher,” said Clausen. Though Clausen is new to teaching, it is evident that she has made a real impact on the lives of students and teacher at Gleneagle.



# Grade 12 artists showcase artwork in “Emerging Talent” show



**CREEPY YET CUTE:** *Fanny Chang, grade 12, created the art piece shown above and it is exhibited in the annual “Emerging Talent” show in Evergreen Culture Centre.*

**TIANA ZHAO**  
Staff reporter

Grade 12 artists participated in the 20th annual “Emerging Talent” student art exhibition at Evergreen Cultural Centre, held from January 22 to February 19.

Over 30% of the pieces of art accepted for the show are from the following Talon artists: **Fanny Chang, Vera Chen, Jiwon Choi, Jessie Gao, Mary Li, Yannie Lo, Chihana Nemoto, Cynthia Wang, Sylvia Wang, and Andy Zhu**, all grade 12.

“I feel very honoured and it was great to

know that all my hard work has really paid off, knowing that people really appreciate my artwork,” said Chang. “It really boosted my confidence in this area and going to the opening for the show allowed me to get to know even more talented artists who also made it to the show,” added Chang.

“I’d say it’s quite an honour having my artwork put up in the Evergreen gallery, although they aren’t my best,” said Gao.

“It was really exciting seeing my work in a gallery,” said Lo. “It made

me feel like a real artist! It was also cool getting to see all the other interesting works in the gallery from other artists,” added Lo.

This exhibit showcased works of grade 12 visual arts students who are planning to apply for a variety of post-secondary art schools. In the show, student artwork was selected by three judges, all retired art teachers, for exhibition at the Evergreen Cultural Centre from seven SD43 secondary schools.

Works include examples of

drawing, painting, pastel, mixed-media, photography, digital media, and sculpture.

“[I have] three [pieces of art exhibiting],” said Lo. “One is an ink drawing of a figure in the centre reaching or grasping towards four other figures around them. One is a self-portrait oil painting. It’s called *Silent Turbulence*; the messy paint strokes are supposed to represent sort of the passion and emotion in my personality that contrast my very quiet and timid appearance, and the other is a sculpture of an octopus with a baby face and baby faces on its suckers,” remarked Lo.

“[They exhibited] two [of my pieces],” said Gao. “*Wilted* portrays the image of a vibrant young woman whose reflection has already withered like a flower along with her innocence. *The Lady and the Vixen* is a twist on the roles of a human girl and a fox, their typical appearances reversed,” added Gao.

Art Careers 12 is a course for students aiming to study art in post-secondary.

“Through Art Careers, we are able to prepare our pieces that are possibly going towards the show,” said Chang. “[It] is like an open studio for students like me and the rest of my classmates who want to go into art,” added Chang.

According to Choi, exhibiting her artwork in a gallery really helps her improve her artistic skills.

“Showing my artwork surrounded by other art pieces gives me an opportunity to see if my artwork stands out from the others or not,” said Choi.

“Getting comments and advice from other people really helps me improve,” concluded Choi.

# Music students ready to jazz things up at 9th annual jazz gala

**CLAIRE MOON**  
Staff reporter

Gleneagle music students will jazz things up on February 25 at Gleneagle’s 9th Annual Jazz Gala and Silent Auction. The gala features performances from all of the jazz programs, including jazz band, vocal jazz, and jazz combo. Special guests are also invited to perform.

“The Jazz Gala is our annual fundraiser for the music program,” said **Eddie Trovato**, music department director. “It is also a dinner, so attendees are able to enjoy the music that our jazz groups perform, and at the same time enjoy a nice dinner sponsored by a catering service,” added Trovato.

Along with jazz performances and dinner, a silent auction will also be held.

“The silent auction is where we have a whole bunch of donations, such as items from sports teams, concert tickets, and musical instruments,” explained Trovato. “We always get a huge variety of items that appeal to a wide range of people, so there’s

something for everybody.”

The jazz students are excited to showcase their talent. “I’m looking forward to playing with the pros,” said **Clare Urquhart**, grade 11. “I’d like to get used to doing a big set of continuous songs,” added Urquhart.

“Personally, I’m looking forward to the vocal soloists that will be singing with jazz band,” said **Benedict Mendes**, grade 12. “I just think our song choices for that performance are really good this year, and we have a really good set of soloists,” remarked Mendes.

“It’s really nice to see the students performing,” said Trovato. “The gala has an added feel or buzz to it. There are a lot of people coming who aren’t even related to the students on stage; there are some people from the general public, people who don’t have anything to do with Gleneagle, who enjoy coming,” added Trovato.

“The gala is always a great time to gel the groups, and that bond just makes the atmosphere at the event lively and warm,” concluded Mendes.



**GETTING JAZZY:** *Jazz students performing at the gala last year. The show is expected to be even better this year.*